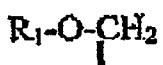


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

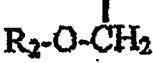
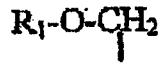
1. (Currently amended) A synthetic molecule of formula I:

A-B-E-D (I)

Wherein A represents R, or a glyceride group having the formula Ia or Ib:



(Ia)



(Ib)

wherein R is H or a linear or branched alkyl of up to 40 carbon atoms; R₁ and R₂ are independently H, alkyl or acyl and wherein the alkyl or acyl groups are linear or branched having up to 40 carbon atoms;

B is selected from the group consisting of phosphate, phosphonate, sulfonate, carbamate, and phosphothionate;

E comprises a spacer or linker group providing a linkage between groups B and D and is selected from the group consisting of -cyclohexyl- and -CHR₃-CHR₄- wherein R₃ and R₄ are independently H, CH₂OH, CH₂-, or (CH(OH))_m-CH₂OH or CH((CHOH)_mCH₂OH)-; and wherein m=1 to 6, with the provisos that when R₃ is H or CH₂ that R⁴ is not H or CH₂, and that when R₄ is H or CH₂ that R₃ is not H or CH₂;

D comprises at least one sugar moiety selected from the group consisting of D-mannose, D-galactose, D-glucose, D-glucosamine, N-acetylglucosamine, and 6-deoxy-L-mannose, wherein when D is more than one sugar moiety, the sugar moiety may comprise a single chain of the same or different sugar moieties, or may comprise two or more separate sugar moieties or chains of sugar moieties attached to E at different sites; with the proviso that when A is a diacyl or monacyl glyceride, R₃ and R₄ cannot both be H; and with the proviso that when R₃ is H, R₄ cannot be CH₂OH.

2. (Original) A synthetic molecule as claimed in claim 1, wherein R is a linear or branched alkyl of between 6 and 22 carbon atoms.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) A synthetic molecule as claimed in claim 2, wherein R is a linear or branched alkyl of between 16 and 20 carbon atoms.

5. (Previously presented) A synthetic molecule as claimed in claim 1 wherein the alkyl or acyl groups of R₁ and R₂ are linear or branched having between 6 and 22 carbon atoms.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) A synthetic molecule as claimed in claim 4, wherein the alkyl or acyl groups of R₁ and R₂ are linear or branched having between 16 and 20 carbon atoms.

8. (Original) A synthetic molecule according to claim 1, wherein D comprises a monosaccharide or oligosaccharide chain of 2 to 12 α-1,2 and/or α-1,6 linked sugar moieties which are O-linked to carbon atoms on spacer group E.

9. (Previously presented) A synthetic molecule as claimed in claim 6, wherein D comprises one or more optionally acylated monosaccharide or oligosaccharide chains of 2 to 6 moieties.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) A synthetic molecule as claimed in claim 1, wherein R₁ and R₂ are fatty acids independently selected from the group consisting of myristate, palmitate, heptadecanoate, stearate, tuberculostearate and linolenate; B is phosphate; E is -CHR₃CHR₄-, wherein R₃ is CH₂- and R₄ is H; and D is at least one sugar moiety comprising D-mannose or an oligosaccharide chain of α-1,2 and/or α-1,6-linked mannose residues.

12. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

13. (Withdrawn) A method of treating or preventing an inflammatory or immune cell-mediated disease or disorder comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1, wherein said disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of asthma, allergic rhinitis, dermatitis, psoriasis, inflammatory bowel disease including Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, diabetes, systemic lupus erythematosus and atherosclerosis.

14.-19. (Canceled)

20. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing synthetic molecules of formula (I) as defined in claim 1, comprising the steps of:

- (i) modifying a benzylated allyl glycoside compound to form an intermediate by dihydroxylation of the double bond using a catalytic

amount of osmium tetroxide and excess N-methyl morpholine-1-oxide to give a glycosyl glycerol as an intermediate for further modification.

- (ii) selectively benzoylating the glycosyl glycerol intermediate to form a glycosyl glycerol unit with the 2° hydroxyl group protected as a benzoyl ester;
- (iii) glycosylating the 1° hydroxyl group of the intermediate compound and selective removal of the benzoyl protecting group;
- (iv) phosphorylating the 1° or 2° hydroxyl groups of the intermediate compound; and
- (v) removing the benzyl protecting groups to form a compound of formula (I).

21. **(Withdrawn)** A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein step (ii) is carried out by temporary tritylation of the 1° hydroxyl group using trityl chloride and pyridine, addition of benzoyl chloride and acidic hydrolysis of the trityl group.

22. **(Withdrawn)** A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein step III is carried out by an N-iodosuccimide trifluoromethanesulfonate promoted glycosylation reaction with a perbenzylated glycosyl phosphite, or a trimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate promoted glycosylation reaction with a perbenzylated glycosyl trichloroimide.

23. **(Withdrawn)** A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein step (iv) is carried out using:

- (a) a 1,2-di-O-acyl-sn-glycero-3-H-phosphonate triethylammonium salt;
- (b) *N,N*-diisopropyl 1,2-di-O-acyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphoramidite and subsequent oxidation with *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid; and
- (c) *N,N*-diisopropyl alkylphosphoramidite and subsequent oxidation with *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid.

24. **(Withdrawn)** A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein step (v) is carried out by catalytic hydrogenolysis over palladium on carbon at either atmospheric or 300 psi pressure of hydrogen.

25. **(Withdrawn)** A process for preparing synthetic molecules of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 comprising the steps:

- (i) glycosylating a benzylated mono-acetylated diol followed by deacetylation;

(ii) phosphorylating the 1° or 2° hydroxyl groups of the compound of step (i); and

(iii) removing the benzyl protecting groups to form a compound of formula (I).

26. (Withdrawn) A process as claimed in claim 25, wherein step (i) is carried out by an N-iodosuccimide trifluoromethanesulfonate promoted glycosylation reaction with a perbenzylated glycosyl phosphite, or a trimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate promoted glycosylation reaction with a perbenzylated glycosyl trichloroimide.

27. (Withdrawn) A process as claimed in claim 25, wherein step (ii) is carried out using:

(a) a 1,2-di-O-acyl-sn-glycero-3-H-phosphonate triethylammonium salt;

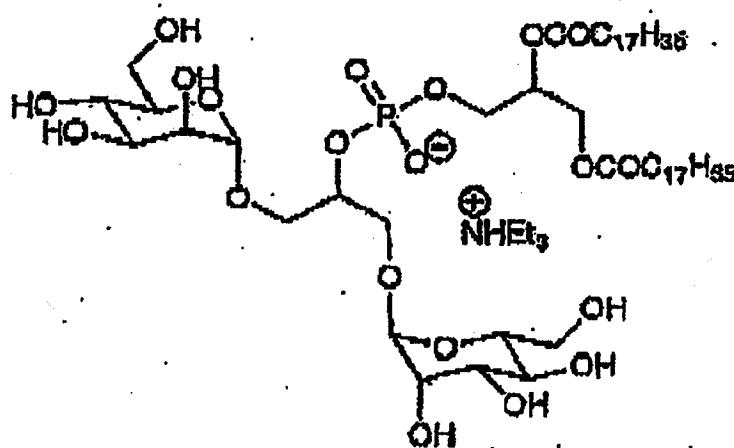
(b) *N,N*-diisopropyl 1,2-di-O-acyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphoramidite and subsequent oxidation with *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid; and

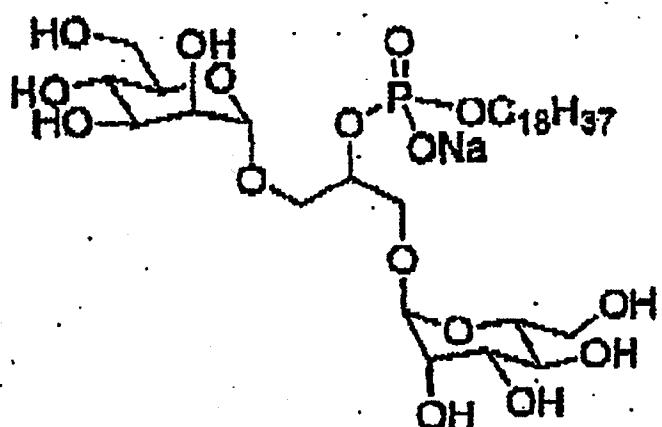
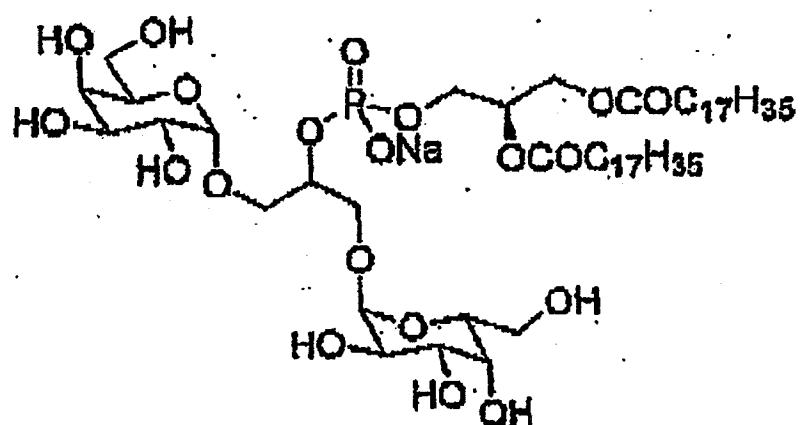
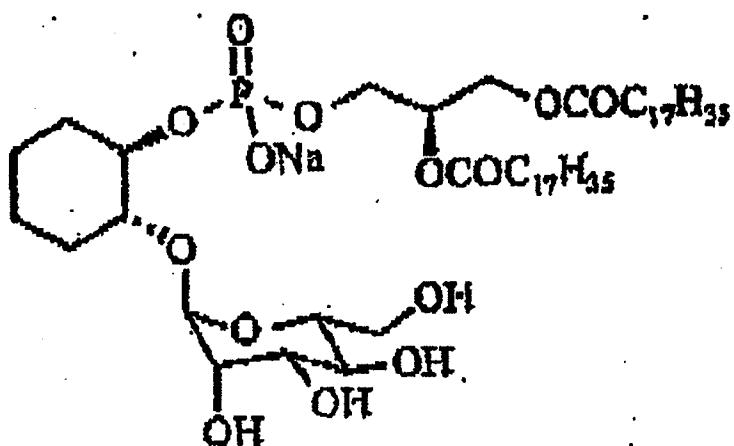
(c) *N,N*-diisopropyl alkylphosphoramidite and subsequent oxidation with *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid.

28. (Withdrawn) A process as claimed in claim 25, wherein step (iii) is carried out by catalytic hydrogenolysis over palladium on carbon at either atmospheric or 300 psi pressure of hydrogen.

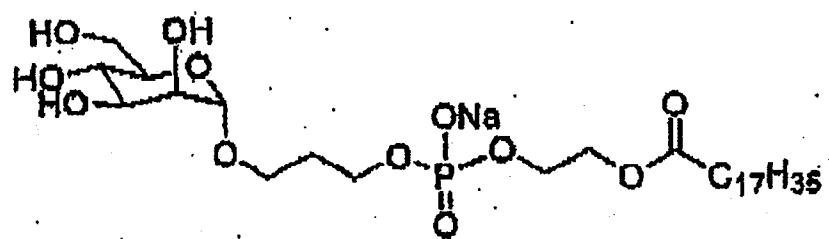
29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously presented) A compound of formula (I), as defined in claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:





; and



31.-34. (Canceled)